



**D.C. MEDICAL CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(MCAC)**

Addendum to Proposal

EPD Waiver Program Overview

The Elderly and Individuals with Physical Disabilities (EPD) Waiver program has been a success since its implementation. The EPD offers a vast array of services starting with Case Management, Personal Care Aide, Respite, Homemaker, Chore, Personal Emergency Response, Assisted Living and Environmental Accessibility Adaption Services. These multiple services offer a range of support a thorough screening of the participants to see what EPD Waivers services may benefit them the most in activities of daily living. One of the services that are not offered however is home delivered meals.

- The National Foundation to End Senior Hunger's June 1, 2016 release of the State of Senior Hunger in America 2014 annual report found that 1 in 5, or 20% of DC seniors overall face the threat of hunger. DC is ranked #7 in terms of the worst states/communities in the United States for the threat of senior hunger.
- From the most current census report for DC, there are 108,861 seniors age 60 and approximately 21,772 people who are potentially facing the threat of hunger using national statistics. DCOA covers 2,050 seniors in their program but this does leave a gray area of 19,000 seniors that may need these services at any given time as they age. There are currently about 3,000 clients in the EPD Waiver program at this time. Reflecting other jurisdictions approximately 50% of Waiver clients request meals.

Duplication

- There is a waitlist when using the District of Columbia Office of Aging's Home Delivered Meals program which opens the opportunity for a program to serve these individuals. Currently the EPD Waiver Program does not have a waitlist.
- The DCOA Home Delivered Meals program does not have specific requirements financially for someone to be eligible for their program. The EPD Waiver program is limited to 300% above Federal Poverty Level if an individual is not eligible for community Medicaid.
- The EPD Waiver program does use income of a participant for screening as well as the current asset amount whereas the DCOA Home Delivered Meals program does not
- The DCOA Home Delivered Meals program does not offer eligibility for physically disabled individuals between the ages of 18-64. The EPD will be available for this cohort.
- The EPD Waiver program and the DCOA Home Delivered Meals program both hold the same mission of getting quality meals to people, but coverage of citizens could expand with the addition of this program

- According to the RFP for DCOA Community Dining and Home Delivered Meals contractors “providing Home-delivered Meals may be requires to become a Medicaid provider. Upon notification from DCOA, the Contractor shall submit an application through the Department of Health care Finance In-home and Long –Term Care Support Services-Waiver program”.

Cost

- DCOA currently offers two kinds of home-delivered meal (HDMs) programs - “ready-to-eat” meals and “shipped, fresh meals.”
 - 75%-80% of DCOA enrolled seniors get “shipped, fresh meals”
 - 20%-25% of DCOA enrolled seniors get “ready-to-eat” is hot and cold.
- Enrolled seniors in either program receive 5 or 7 meals per week.
- Ready-to-eat meals cost about \$7.00 per meal plus about \$5.00 for transportation costs per delivery. The total cost for clients on this program to receive two meals/delivery is about \$19.00 ($\$7=\$7+\5), and to receive one meal/delivery is about \$12.00 ($\$7=\5). Generally, enrolled seniors receive two meals on Monday, two meals on Wednesday, one meal on Friday, and two meals on Saturday.
- Shipped, fresh meals currently cost about \$6.15 per meal including transportation. Clients on this program receive 10 or 14 shipped, fresh meals every two weeks for a total cost of about \$61.50 - \$86.10 per delivery.
- These costs are expected to rise somewhat because the DCOA meals contracts are currently up for re-bid/renewal.